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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced that Derek McCown, age 38, of Richmond, Virginia, pleaded guilty yesterday to four counts of mail fraud. McCown faces up to 20 years of imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, restitution of \$360,721.12, and three (3) years supervised release. He will be sentenced by United District Judge Robert E. Payne on February 16, 2006 at 9:00 pm.

In pleading guilty, McCown acknowledged that beginning in October 2002, while serving as Treasurer of the Metropolitan District of Columbia, Virginia Soccer Association (MDCVSA), he misappropriated approximately 128 checks totaling \$190,721.12 into his own bank account that were payable to MDSVA. McCown also failed to pay \$120,000 in fees owed to the United States Soccer Federation (USSF). In an apparent effort to cover up his scheme, McCown made two large deposits into MDCVSA account from his personal account. In addition, on two different occasions, McCown transferred to his own account a total of approximately \$170,000 in investment funds from his grandmother's account, which he was managing as an Anderson and Strudwick stockbroker in Richmond.

Also announcing the plea yesterday was FBI Special Agent-in-Charge Donald Thompson.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Brian L Whisler.

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